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PATENT  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Takayama, et al.

**RECEIVED**

Serial No. : 09/980,887

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Filed : October 29, 2001

Technology Center 2600

For : MAGNETIC HEAD, RECORDING/REPRODUCING  
METHOD FOR TAPE MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM,  
AND ROTARY MAGNETIC HEAD MECHANISM

Examiner : Mark S. Blouin

Art Unit : 2653

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 1, 2004.

William S. Frommer, Reg. No. 25,506

(Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative)

William S. Frommer  
Signature

July 1, 2004

Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR ELECTION OF SPECIES

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action which issued in the above-identified application on June 4, 2004, requiring an election of species among those species identified by the Examiner as follows:

Species A, depicted in Fig. 7;

Species B, depicted in Fig. 8; and

Species C, depicted in Fig. 9.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims directed to the species identified by the Examiner are as follows:

Species A, depicted in Fig. 7, is covered by claims 2, 4 and 10.

Species B, depicted in Fig. 8, is covered by claims 1, 3-5, 7, 9 and 12.

Species C, depicted in Fig. 9, is covered by claims 1, 3-9 and 11-13.

Based upon this definition of the species, Applicants elect, without traverse,

Species A, claims 2, 4 and 10.

Applicants disagree with the Examiner's finding that there are no generic claims present in this application. As is apparent from the foregoing summary of the claims, claim 4 is generic: it reads on all of the species identified by the Examiner. Accordingly, if this generic claim eventually is allowed, it is recognized that the instant requirement for an election of species will be withdrawn; and all claims which include the limitations of the generic claim, irrespective of the particular species on which those claims read, likewise will be allowed.

Applicants reserve their right to file one or more divisional applications, if necessary, so as to proceed with the examination of the non-elected claims.

An early examination on the merits of the claims of this application are  
respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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